

New Bedford March 1st 1830.

Sunday morning -

Dear Anne,

I wrote to you yesterday

in great haste, & suppose you have received the letter by this time - Yesterday afternoon I went petitioning as usual. I have got 87 names now & hope to get a great many to day as one petition has gone among the Methodists & I am fitting one up to go to the African church. I called at Miss Sam Rodmans & found her sick abed, but her sister and Blanche signed - I had a very pleasant call & was much pleased with Miss Prior, whom I never had much acquaintance with before - She told me that one of the Bristol D'Wolfs dined there this winter & in speaking of the Abolitionists he said - I don't think they are going the right way to work, but Miss P know - God never will permit such awful wickedness as slavery to continue much longer, violence & bloodshed must be the end of it - I then called at the old lady Rodmans who has been quite ill - she refused to sign - "I'll give my money & my labour & my influence to the cause", said she; but to petition such a set of men as there are in Congress I will never do it - she says when she sits alone thinking over the horrors of slavery & the sufferings of the slaves

It seems as if she ~~had~~ not been it — I have  
made quite a fight here in town about the  
ministers who refuse to read notices & by  
publicly pronouncing that I won't go to a  
church where such things are perpetrated  
I am getting things into a very good way —  
This new society that has just been got  
up — the Benevolent Society sent a notice  
to all the churches requesting them to give  
up their own meetings — as this Socy is in  
the highest degree respectable & fashionable  
& Mr. Peabody was to address it — these  
ministers I can assure you were thrown  
into a quandary — Mr. Smith came to Mr  
Emerson in much perplexitation, "what  
shall I do", said he, "you know what my  
rule is. "Yes," said Mr. S "I know it, a rule  
which has grieved me, & many other  
of your church members very much" "why  
said the pastor, all the ministers of this  
association have agreed to the same  
why Mr & I are much more of an abolitionist  
than you think I am — Here the conversation  
was interrupted, but Mr S did not dare to  
refuse to read the notice, & gave it his  
own meeting, though he was just getting at  
a revival — ~~had~~ given it so to Mr S now  
about his conduct — that he was more  
afraid of me than any thing & refused  
to read the Benevolent Socy's notice, striking  
it up in the porch — That is the way he says.

he is going to serve all notices - she don't  
like the custom of reading notices. He  
would read anti-slavery notices just as  
quick as any - "men not afraid of God  
afraid of me" - I spent Friday evening with  
Mrs Emerson who confided to me all her  
church trouble - She has borne it for  
nine years, she says and it seems  
to her she can bear it no longer - She  
can't abide church & has never  
heard him preach but twice - Oh that  
I was in her place. We spent an hour,  
she talking as Dr John Briggs would,  
who she expects every day will visit  
her, he being grand inquisitor general &  
answering for Mrs Emerson - I walked  
into him. I can tell you our way mouth  
church has a remarkable degree of freedom  
if all the churches round the country  
are as bad as this one - Mr Peabody's  
address before the benevolent Soc. was  
a very good one & at the close Mr  
Morrison requested all to sign the  
constitution, male & female - I joined  
partly because I approve the Soc., partly  
for the woman question, & partly to  
get Mr Morrison into my power - for  
this Soc. is his master - In our  
next conversation I shall have him  
at great advantage - he having told  
me he was entirely converted, but that

his sphere of duty lay among the poor  
of N. B. It shall press upon him the duty  
of joining in an antislavery Society — I  
called upon Mrs Peabody, who has some  
Boston feelings about ladies signing  
petitions, but her husband said, <sup>above</sup> many  
have as you have signed these petitions  
it is hardly worth while to stop now —  
so ~~she~~ signed. I forgot in stating this  
Emerson's case I forgot to say there ~~was~~  
a grand revival going on here & Mrs  
& Mr John either, for the matter of that  
have <sup>never</sup> been near the church among the  
whole — & this makes difficulty —

Mr Bowditch told me the other  
night that Dr Channing was surprised  
that Mrs Hollen dwelt so much upon the  
outward, the wealth & the fine & the cotton  
bales — that sounds exactly like Dr C.  
has never been to see Mrs Hollen yet.  
Mrs Channing has seen her I understand  
so she must be better — I want you  
to send these letters to Weymouth as  
soon as possible — I intended this  
for Aunt Mary, but having a direct  
opportunity to Boston I thought it a pity  
to lose it — I hope to hear from Aunt  
Mary to-morrow, for it seems a long  
time since I have had news from  
Aunt Priscilla. Give much love to Channing  
Place, Henry & all — How does Lucy deport  
herself. Tell her that discretion is the better

part of colour". Don't you think this method  
I proposed of disposing of those Mass Ab's  
is the best — write by mail very soon  
Do you think Swinton will have the  
assurance to come into Massachusetts  
I don't believe he will ~~will~~ — I long  
to see Lewis Sappards letter, what does  
he say — Where is Anna now —  
& what is to become of her this summer —  
I am enjoying myself very much as  
I have good hope that it shall not be  
here a great while longer — Mrs How-  
land has always thought that it would  
be good for <sup>her</sup> ~~her~~ to go away from home, &  
I intend to have her go to Roxbury — Mrs  
Howland will of course go with her  
& she likes Caroline very much —  
Walking so much takes my flesh off  
considerably, but every body cries out  
how well I look — Mrs Howland says  
that being out so much makes me  
look as healthy & hard as a fine hunk  
I feel remarkably well & have not  
had an unpleasant sensation since  
the New year came in — it I may  
except a constant feeling of hunger —  
I eat as we did at Groton — do you  
remember how that was —

ever faithfully yours D.W.

Will you tell Henry that  
 tailor Pratt was never paid  
 for little Henry's coat. Making  
 it finding "the trimming"  
 was \$3.00. in all. I wish  
 Henry would send it out  
 with this letter - Do get it of  
 you soon -

John  
 Boston

Oct 1810 to Henry  
 1000 16 cents

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